CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1.   (Original) A test method, comprising:

intercepting data packets;

creating error conditions responsive to the intercepting;

transmitting the error conditions; and

monitoring a response to the error conditions.

2.   (Original) The test method of claim 1 where creating error conditions includes dropping selected data packets.

3.   (Original) The test method of claim 1 where creating error conditions includes intentionally corrupting selected data packets.

4.   (Original) The test method of claim 1 comprising identifying the data packets before creating error conditions.

5.   (Original) The test method of claim 1 where monitoring the response comprises analyzing traces stored in a trace buffer.

6.   (Original) The test method of claim 1 comprising determining compliance responsive to the monitoring.

7.   (Original) A test apparatus, comprising:

means for identifying data packets;

means for modifying the data packets responsive to the identifying;

means for transmitting the modified data packets; and

means for checking a response to the transmitted data packets.

8. (Original) The test apparatus of claim 7 where the means for modifying the data packets includes means for dropping a predetermined number of the data packets.

9. (Original) The test apparatus of claim 7 where the means for modifying data packets includes means for intentionally corrupting data packets.

10. (Original) The test apparatus of claim 7 where the means for identifying data packets includes means for identifying two or more sequential data packets having a predetermined type.

11. (Original) The test apparatus of claim 7 where means for checking the response includes means for storing a trace indicative of the response.

12. (Original) The test apparatus of claim 11 comprising means for determining standard compliance responsive to the trace.

13. (Currently amended) A test system, comprising:
a processor;
a plurality of end points;
a bridge capable of facilitating communication between the processor and the plurality of end points; and
a switch capable of switching between the plurality of endpoints; , the switch
where the switch is capable of:
intercepting data packets;
creating error conditions responsive to the intercepting;
transmitting the error conditions; and
monitoring a response to error conditions.

14. (Original) The test system of claim 13 where the switch is capable of creating the error conditions by dropping selected data packets.

15.   (Original) The test system of claim 13 where the switch is capable of creating the error conditions by intentionally corrupting selected data packets.

16.   (Original) The test system of claim 13 where the switch is capable of identifying the data packets before creating the error conditions in selected data packets.

17.   (Original) The test system of claim 13 comprising a trace buffer and where the switch is capable of monitoring the response by analyzing contents of the trace buffer.

18.   (Original) The test system of claim 13 where the switch is capable of determining compliance responsive to the monitoring.

19.   (Original) An article comprising a storage medium having stored thereon instructions, that, when executed by at least one device, result in:
    identifying data packets;
    modifying the data packets responsive to the identifying;
    transmitting the modified data packets; and
    monitoring a response to the transmitted data packets.

20.   (Original) The article of claim 19 where modifying the data packets includes dropping a predetermined number of the data packets.

21.   (Original) The article of claim 19 where modifying the data packets includes intentionally corrupting selected data packets.

22.   (Original) The article of claim 19 where identifying data packets includes identifying two or more sequential data packets having a predetermined type.

23.   (Original) The article of claim 19 where monitoring the response includes storing a trace indicative of the response.

24.   (Original) The article of claim 19 comprising determining standard compliance responsive to the trace.